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Scientific Mental Healing. H. ADDINGTON BRUCE. Little Brown & Co., Boston, 1911. pp. 258.

The book is a collection of eight essays, slightly revised from their original form of magazine articles. It treats of the evolution of mental healing, the history and methods of various schools of psychopathology (Janet, Freud, Sidis, Prince), of Christian Science and New Thought, discusses hypnotism and secondary selves, touches upon the applications of psychology to education, law and advertising, and adds a chapter on psychical research, and an appreciation of William James. The treatment throughout is of the 'popular' sort — anecdotal, sketchy and superficial.

W. S. FOSTER.

Experiments on the Generation of Insects. By FRANCISCO REDI of Arezzo. Translated from the Italian edition of 1688 by M. BIGELOW. Chicago, Open Court Publishing Co., 1909. pp. 160.

Intracellular Pangenesis; including a paper on Fertilization and Hybridization. By H. de VRIES. Translated by C. S. GAGER. Chicago, Open Court Publishing Co., 1910. pp. xiii., 270.

Some Neglected Factors in Evolution. By H. M. BERNARD. Edited by M. BERNARD. New York and London, G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1911. pp. xxi., 489.

Mendelism. By R. C. PUNNETT. Third edition, rewritten and enlarged. New York, The Macmillan Co., 1911. pp. xiii., 192.

The Open Court Publishing Company has made all students of life and mind its permanent debtors by the series of reprints and translations, two volumes of which lie before us. Redi was the first to disprove, by experiment, the generation of living things from dead matter; he is thus the pioneer on the road that led to the theory of biogenesis. Unfortunately, his observations on galls misled him, and he thought that 'the peculiar potency of that soul or principle, which gives rise to flower and fruit also engenders the worms in the galls. The translation is competent; it is, however, to be regretted that the work was not annotated by a biologist.

The *Intracellular Pangenesis* appeared in German in 1889; the paper on *Fertilization* dates from 1903. As Professor Strasburger remarks in an Introductory Note, no 'recommendation' of Professor de Vries' works is needed; they are consulted of necessity by all who are interested in the topics which they discuss. The translator, Professor Gager of the University of Missouri, contributes an interesting Preface.

The late Mr. Bernard is known by his papers in systematic zoology and by his work on the histology of the retina. In the present volume he gives us his general views of the course of organic evolution. Pt. i., *The Protomimetic Network*, outlines a theory of morphogenesis. The precellular unit of living structure is the chromidium, a particle of chromatin from which radiate delicate linin-filaments, and which is set in a fluid albuminous matrix to the surface of which the filaments extend. From the chromidium develops the cell, and from the cell develop in like manner individuals of a higher order; the linin-filaments persist as a continuum throughout the entire organism, and the chromatin collects at the nodes of the network to form nuclei. This theory leads the author to conceptions of histogenesis, ontogenesis and phylogenesis which, in many respects, differ widely from the ideas currently accepted. Pt. ii., *The Cosmic Rhythm*, argues that we can distinguish five great evolutionary periods, each one intro-

duced by a unit resulting from the colony-formation of the unit of the preceding period. The units are the chromidial, the cellular, the gastraeaal, the annelidian, and the simian or anthropoid. At all stages there is continuity of structure, secured by the linin-filaments; the successive colony-formations are true structural integrations. When, however, we come to man, we reach the limit of this morphological integration; human societies or colonies are made up of separate colony-units, of separate men and women. Yet the principle remains the same; for the essential factors in the evolutionary process are the stimuli transmitted by the network; and if we can find transmission of stimuli between the members of human society, we have a right to speak of social integration. Now such transmission occurs, indirectly, by speech and gesture; but it also takes place directly, by telepathy; "on the failure of the primitive linin-network to embrace and tie the human aggregates together, the psychic counterparts of the nerve energies have become the chief factor in connecting the units." So we are necessarily led to consider the part played by the psyche in organic evolution; and the author concludes that it "does not take part in the actual machinery as any primary essential part of the mechanism, but, as the machinery becomes complicated, it plays an important part in simply heightening or dampening down the stimulus." At the same time, the psyche, having emerged, fills a larger and larger portion of man's life, and the life of the future will probably be "the result of the interplay of the specially developed psychic organism with a psychic environment." Even, then, if further morphological transformation is impossible, we have every reason to think that a sixth period will start on a higher level of life, altogether beyond our present comprehension.

It is something of a relief to turn from these highly speculative discussions to the inductions and experiments of Professor Punnett's *Mendelism*. The book, which is written in a style as popular as the subject allows, consists of fifteen chapters: the Problem, Historical, Mendel's Work, the Presence and Absence Theory, Interaction of Factors, Reversion, Dominance, Wild Forms and Domestic Varieties, Repulsion and Coupling of Factors, Sex, Intermediates, Variation and Evolution, Economical, Man. The treatment offers, if compared with Mr. Bernard's work, a good illustration of the difference between hypothesis and speculation. The *Mendelism* may be cordially recommended, as an admirable introduction to the present problems of heredity: aside from a slip in botanical nomenclature (p. 2 and elsewhere), there is little if anything for the critic to carp at. The final chapter, with its remark that "the analysis of mental characters will no doubt be very difficult," is a direct challenge to the experimental psychologist.

On Certain Electrical Processes in the Human Body and their Relation to Emotional Reactions. By F. L. WELLS and A. FORBES.

An Empirical Study of Certain Tests for Individual Differences. By M. T. WHITLEY.

Archives of Psychology, nos 16, 19. New York. The Science Press. 1911. pp. 39; iii, 146.

Both of these Studies contribute to our knowledge of problems that are at present under general discussion. The work of Messrs. Wells and Forbes appears almost at the same time with that of Radecki in the *Archives de Psychologie*; and it is reassuring to find a substantial